LIFE IN NATURE ON LAKE MICHIGAN

New Buffalo Times

NEWS
$1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF NEW BUFFALO, MICHIGAN • SINCE 1942

CHICAGO • LONG BEACH • MICHIANA SHORES • GRAND BEACH • NEW BUFFALO • UNION PIER • THREE OAKS • LAKESIDE • HARBERT • SAWYER

issue 46, volume 84 www.newbuffalotimes.com Thursday, November 20, 2025

Village Council receives update on water system **PAGE 3**

Township board denies reasoning of Sawyer Fields parcel **PAGES 4-5**

City Council tables decision on paid parking recommendation **PAGE 6**

Wreaths Across America Day being planned for New Buffalo **PAGE 8**

Students stage 'Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?' **PAGE 10**

Chamber celebrates year of continued growth at annual dinner, meeting **PAGE 18**

PLAYIN' THAT BASKETBALL...

NO. 7 NATIONALLY RANKED LA LUMIERE DOMINATES NO. 16 JORDAN CHRISTIAN, 92-44

— PAGE 9 —

AT YOUR SERVICE
A COMPANY OF CRAFTSMEN
WWW.ATYOURSERVICE.BUILDERS
T.269.358.8159
CUSTOM: HOMES | RENOVATION | COMMERCIAL

Passaro, Kahne, Taylor, DeFrancesco, & Thompson
LAW OFFICES your local common-sense legal team
685 West Main Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 | (269) 983-0325 | passarokahne.com
17656A US Highway 12, New Buffalo, MI 49117 | (269) 469-5297 | Fax: (269) 983-0328
- Business/Tax Law
- Estate Planning
- Medicaid & Long-Term Care Planning
- Real Estate
- Special Needs Planning
- Probate and Trust Administration

McGHEE'S
Heating & Air Conditioning
bryant Heating & Cooling Systems
"Feel at Ease with McGhee's"
We Service All Brands
Ask about our
C.A.R.E CLUB
Maintenance Agreement
Call McGhee's for your Annual Tune-Up
(269) 466-0123
www.mcgheesheating.com
7301 Red Arrow Hwy | Stevensville, MI 49127
Google Reviews · NATE · BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS · Angi

Barney's
QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED
Marinated Meats
Make Meals Easy!
You need to start with a great cut of Meat to wind up with a great meal. And here at barney's, we offer the best!
Prices good Thursday, Nov 20 thru Thursday Nov 27, 2025
OPEN THANKSGIVING DAY TIL 4:00 PM
USDA CHOICE ANGUS BEEF BONELESS SIRLOIN TIP ROAST $6.99 LB
HIGH IN VITAMIN K FRESH ASPARAGUS $2.99 LB
GRADE A HONEYSUCKLE FROZEN TURKEY .89 LB
SMITHFIELD SPIRAL SLICED SLICED HAM $3.49 LB
FRICK'S OLD FASHION SHANK PORTION HAM $2.49 LB
BUTTERBALL GRADE A FROZEN TURKEY $1.89 LB
10 N THOMPSON ST, NEW BUFFALO Phone 269-469-1210 OPEN SUN - THUR 7 AM - 9 PM * FRI - SAT 7 AM - 10 PM

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

ETHICS
SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM
MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

PROPRIETOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.

EDITOR
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
EDITORIAL BOARD

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
JOE DURK

REPORTERS/WRITERS
THERESE DONNELLY
FRANCESCA SAGALA
LAWRENCE VON EBELER
KURT MARGGRAF
JACK OLESKER
KAREN EDWARDS
ALEXANDER FATOUROS
SOPHIA R. FATOUROS
STAN MADDUX
KRISTIN E. FATOUROS
NEW BUFFALO TIMES INTELLIGENCE
NEW BUFFALO TIMES POLITICS
GUESTS

QUOTES
DINO N. FATOUROS

PROOFING
FRANCESCA SAGALA

BROADCAST/ADVERTISING
JANINE ADAMSKI 630-370-0820
OR JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM

SUGGESTIONS, CRITICISM, IDEAS
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

ADVERTISING
MEDIA@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

CLASSIFIED ADS
CLASSIFIEDS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

SUBSCRIPTIONS
SUBSCRIPTIONS@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH NEW BUFFALO TIMES
INFO@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM

Periodical Postage paid in
New Buffalo, MI. Postmaster,
please send address changes to:
NEW BUFFALO TIMES
PO BOX 369, New Buffalo, MI 49117

©2025 NEW BUFFALO TIMES, INC.
PUBLICATION NUMBER 377960
CIRCULATION 5,000+ WEEKLY

NEW BUFFALO TIMES distribution:
Milda's Corner Market • Sawyer Garden Center • The Whistle Stop
David's Delicatessen • Barney's
Knoll Bros. • Stray Dog
Infusco Coffee Roasters
Black Currant Bakehouse • Redamak's
Between Casey's and Nancy's
Froehlics - Three Oaks • The Lakeside Inn
Michigan City, IN • Chicago, IL
Kalamazoo, MI • Grand Rapids, MI
Three Oaks, MI • Union Pier, MI
Sawyer, MI • St. Joseph, MI

For the most convenient location, you can subscribe to get the *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* in your mailbox or inbox. Please email us for E-TIMES, info@newbuffalotimes.com.

Village Council receives update on water system

BY THERESE DONNELLY

Work on the village water system hit a snag, but major sections are nearing completion.

At the Three Oaks Village Council's Nov. 12 meeting, project manager Andrew Rudd of Wightman and Associates said work on the lagoon banks is "98 percent there" with only minor issues at the new lift station, including blown fuses, remaining.

However, Rudd said a new change order is required due to issues discovered in the lines leading to the lagoons. Inspection revealed a dented 5-foot section of pipe near Featherbone Restaurant. The initial plan, Rudd said, was to simply dig down and replace the damaged pipe, but further inspection found a mainline is resting on the pipe, causing the dent and requiring restructuring downstream.

This work will allow a new sampling manhole, Rudd said.

The council approved the $35,630 change order.

Rudd also said the Hickory Street bridge project will not begin until spring 2026.

At previous meetings, the village had considered a request from property owners Bridget and Tad Verdun to sell a village parcel adjacent to their property at 114 N Elm. The lot is only accessible by crossing the Verduns' property and cannot be developed due to setback requirements. At the November meeting, Village Manager Dan Faulkner informed the Council that while researching the property's history, attorney Charles Hilmer discovered a 5' easement that would potentially benefit the owners of the adjacent property at 110 N. Elm. Hilmer said the easement goes back to at least the 1950s.

Once the appraiser has determined if this affects the property value, the village will decide its next step.

The online enrollment for the short-term rental permit waitlist has been delayed. Faulkner said there were issues with the site from iWork and the village is waiting to learn if there will need to be code written to resolve the issues.

New mandates will require all police radios to be encrypted in 2026. Three Oaks Police Chief Carl Krause told the council that the department's portable radios can be encrypted by Spectrum Wireless, but he is checking to see if the other radio systems can be encrypted.

The council approved the encryption upgrade and the purchase of a light detecting and ranging (LiDAR) device to measure vehicles speeds. Krause said there are pros and cons to all speed detecting systems and the handheld LiDAR can be used outside of police vehicles.

Later in the meeting during public comment, resident Kristie Pirkel asked the council to better enforce village speed limits. She said she has measured vehicles going up to 70 MPH in a 25 zone and speeding was especially dangerous during trick or treating in the village as children moved through the streets and families used slow-moving vehicles to get around.

Returning to an issue tabled during the October meeting, the council approved up to $5300 for AmericanLegal to update and codify village ordinances. Councilmember Lois Jones dissented.

Faulkner reported a leak in the village building at 21 N. Elm had damaged bricks in the portion of the building formerly occupied by the Berrien County Health Department and approximately 30 to 50 bricks will need to be replaced. Three Oaks Makers and Merchants Association (TOMAMA) has approached the village about renting the space. The council authorized Faulkner to work with Hilmer to draft a lease agreement. Jones asked that TOMAMA's non-profit status be considered when setting the lease terms.

Kim Pruitt said TOMAMA seeks to emphasize local creative arts, including literary and musical works.

The council voted to reappoint Ira Johnson to the Parks and Recreation Board, and Eric Derucki and Mike Holfels to the Zoning Board of Appeals. They appointed Kevin Harrington to the Planning Commission. Harrington served as an interim member

The council also accepted a letter of resignation from Downtown Development Authority Chair Marco Chavarry.

The council authorized Graziano to sign contracts with MDOT for state work along North Elm and US 12.

The council approved a 2 percent pay increase for all employees. Faulkner said further increases can be determine for individual merit.

During committee reports, councilmember Jason Niemzyk reported three large trees in Dewey Cannon will need to be removed. A donor has offered to supply replacements, but the Parks Board needed to respond quickly, so Faulkner and Village President Steve Graziano gave the board approval to accept the donation without waiting for the council meeting.

Holiday lights will be put up in Carver Park soon. The council approve up to $1000 for any replacement lights needed.

The council also approved a street closure on North Elm between Maple and Linden Nov. 29 as part of the annual Snowflake Stroll, which includes tree lighting at Carver Park.

Niemzyk said state grant money for the Chamberlain Path project was much less than expected and planners are revieing the project to make changes. The Harbor Country Bocci Club has approached the village about applying for a grant to put a bocci court in a village park.

Jones reported the Planning Commission is reviewing several properties that have not met site plan requirements.

Leaf removal was temporarily suspended after snow earlier in the week covered leaves. Faulkner said work will resume after the leaves have dried off from the following melt.

Winter street parking restrictions go into effect Nov. 15 until April 1.

The Narcissist is a preadator. *— Dino N. Fatouros*

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
The Board meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 6PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Township board denies rezoning of Sawyer Fields parcel

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The Chikaming Township Board of Trustees denied a request to rezone a parcel of land from AG to R-1 Single Family Residential for a proposed development, Sawyer Fields, at their Thursday, Nov. 13, meeting.

In February, applicants John Scala and Mitch Mammina, along with engineer Rob Andrews, presented a site plan to the Planning Commission to develop 5596 Sawyer Road.

At the township board's August meeting, Planning Commission Chair Jim Gormley said that Sawyer Fields was presented and approved as an R-1 development.

He added that the single, narrow 10-acre parcel runs north and south and abuts R-1. Upon recommendation from the planners, board members approved proceeding with potentially rezoning the parcel.

In a 4-1 vote (Robin Carroll voted "nay" and Cam Mammina abstained), in October, the Planning Commission approved a recommendation to the board to rezone the parcel.

Noting that the project should've gone through a request of rezoning from the beginning, Chikaming Township Supervisor David Bunte said that township's Planning Commission "unfortunately" made an error and, when the issue came to the board, they said "go back and go through the zoning process to get the public's input."

Bunte urged the crowd to get involved in the Master Planning process" and give their feedback on township housing.

He added that the township is awaiting a housing study from Cornerstone Alliance that will give them a detailed analysis of their needs.

Bunte said to "listen to your business owners, listen to the youth that's trying to remain in Chikaming Township and work and start a business here."

"If we do not continually adapt and change, you fail and fall to the wayside, so you have to be able to balance - but without your engagement at that level and to come in with pitchforks and torches just when it's going to immediately affect you, we don't solve anything," Bunte said.

Trustee Rich Sullivan said that none of the houses would be affordable for "the people who work in our community, they are not going to be affordable for people who work at the truck stop, work at the different businesses in Sawyer" or those in the police and fire departments, as well as young families with schoolchildren.

"Our priority should be trying to figure out how do we come up with some type of housing for these people who are working here and want to live here – but we haven't," Sullivan said.

He held up a handmade sign with the word "LOCALS:" "Leave Our Chikaming Agricultural Lands Safe."

To quote a letter they received, Sullivan said "what's trying to happen on that property there, I consider that a predatory financial rape of the agricultural property in our community."

Nancy DuPondt said she doesn't know why they invested in the master plan if they're "going to openly contradict it" and that she "can't imagine what workforce can afford $400,000 homes."

Karen Doughty said that while she understands the need for housing, "no more of these woods should be torn down, no more of the farmland should be torn down" and the wildlife "is becoming very, very habitat less."

Marion Edgerton said nothing's been done in 20 years regarding her issues with the 100-year-old drainage system.

"Until that is fixed, I can't imagine you can build anymore off Flynn that's going to drain further into our yard," she said.

Joan Matlack said that the township's master plan "makes clear that the township's goal for the area under review is to preserve its natural state" as well as that development should occur west of I-94 and not the area east of Sawyer Township Center.

She said future land use maps show 5596 Sawyer Road in an area that's "specifically designated to be preserved as agricultural land."

Matlack said the vice chair of the Planning Commission, Cam Mammina, is the son of the property's developer, alleging that he's the realtor "who served as the buyer's agent when his father purchased this farm to develop it."

"So, Cam Mammina knew, and other commissioners should've known at the time they took up approval of the site plan at the beginning of this year it was agriculturally zoned land, but they went ahead - out of order - and approved the site plan," Matlack said.

Mitch Mammina said his son was out of the country and "recused on any voting that had to do with this project." He said they didn't buy the property, which had been for sale for a while, from him but from realtor Caleb Dryden.

Words will not fail when the matter is well considered.
— Horace

He added that their plan was to have one acre of milkweed specifically for butterflies and "open to the public," and to encourage those 30 and under to join the community.

Robb Andrews, who designed the site plan, said that "there is the intent to improve the drainage in the area and not to cause any problems for anyone who lives adjacent or downstream of that."

John Scales said the proposed development "is not dense" and would contain 22 single family homes, each on a minimum lot size of 20,000 square feet.

"We chose this location due to its proximity to the Sawyer business district, its access to municipal utilities and Chikaming Township support for creating additional residential housing opportunities adjacent to town centers like Sawyer," he said.

Scales added they've been "steadfast in our commitment to developing a community that aligns with the township's vision."

Per a letter from John Bell that was read by Kevin Rogers, "nearly every home along Flynn Road adjacent to this site that's currently farmland sits on two to five acre lots with open fields and mature trees – these aren't just large yards, they form a natural buffer, exactly the kind recommended by planning professionals across the country when neighborhoods border farmland."

"But the rezoning plan before you tonight would erase that buffer, replacing it with 22 tightly packed houses on 20,00 square foot lots with 11 of them backing directly onto the edge of working farmland," the letter said.

Approving it would "set a dangerous precedent that farmland is expendable, that it can be rezoned for dense housing, that developers can maximize entitlements with no regard for neighbors, farmers or long-term planning integrity."

Board members approved of holding another public meeting to discuss short-term rentals (STRs) at 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 24, in the township fire station.

It's at that meeting that board members will discuss possibly extending the current 90-day moratorium, which is slated to end in January, as well as the selection of members who will serve on a committee regarding STRs.

Bunte said he's proposing that the committee consist of the police and fire chiefs, the code enforcement officer and one or two members of the community who have "no direct relation" to the STR industry.

Since the recommendations coming from the committee may not be able to be "instituted immediately," Bunte said, the moratorium's extension may be warranted.

Board members approved pursuing a grant or other actions to accommodate the funding regarding a sculpture proposal for Harbert Community Park.

Bunte said Barry Tinsley presented on potentially donating some of his sculptures from his property to the township, with a survey being put on the website. Tinsley returned to the board with a proposal to potentially donate a sculpted red dog, which would go at the entrance to the dog park.

Treasurer Liz Rettig said the estimated associated cost $12,000 was "quite a chunk of change," with Bunte adding it wasn't budgeted for in the current budget. Board members agreed that they're open to finding other funding sources to proceed with the donation before going further.

Board members approved a change order request for $3,423.57 regarding the Harbert Park improvements, which includes extending the strip by the pickleball courts so there's no runoff and repurposing the drains off the restroom facility, so that it goes into a retention area.

The 2026-27 township road project recommendations from the Road Committee were approved. The tentative cost is $570,323, and with matching funds comes to $515,763.

Board members approved dissolving the road committee creating the transportation committee, which follows both the Master Plan and Safe Streets For All Grant and the data that's been collected from that concentrating on all the modes of township transportation.

The five-member committee will include a township board member, three residents of Chikaming and one at large member. Responsibilities include reviewing the transportation system, making recommendations to the board on any improvements or needs, reviewing projects and update Road Asset Management Plan and year-end road proposed projects from the Road Department.

Board members adopted a resolution opposing the Ax the Tax statewide referendum, which would eliminate property taxes.

DECADES OLD REMAINS RECOVERED OUTSIDE NEW BUFFALO IDENTIFIED

Remains found along the Lake Michigan shoreline outside New Buffalo decades ago have been identified as a 71 year old woman from Chicago.

Dorothy Glanton was reported missing after leaving her home on December 9, 1987 and failing to return, according to Michigan State Police.

Four months later, police said the remains were recovered along the shoreline but were unidentified for so long they became known as "New Buffalo Jane Doe."

The major break in the case happened in 2023 after investigators reopened the case and sought help from the DNA Doe Project, a nonprofit group specializing in advanced genetic genealogy techniques.

Police said DNA extracted from Glanton's remains was analyzed and uploaded to genealogical databases, allowing researchers to construct a family tree that led to her identification.

"This identification brings closure to a family that has wondered for nearly four decades what happened to their loved one," Sgt. John Moore, the lead detective on the case out of the MSP Niles Post.

According to investigators, early assessments suggested the remains were of a white woman in her 40s or 50s.

However, the genetic genealogy process later revealed that Glanton was an African American woman in her early 70s at the time of her death.

No light was shed on how she ended up in the lake or cause of death. — STAN MADDUX

City Council tables decision on paid parking recommendation

BY THERESE DONNELLY

While the New Buffalo Downtown Development Authority has offered alternatives to paid parking spaces, the New Buffalo City Council tabled a decision on the recommendation at their Monday, Nov. 17, meeting.

Earlier in the year, the council passed an ordinance establishing paid parking; however, it has not been put into effect, as many merchants and property owners have voiced opposition to the measure. Several business owners have argued before the council and the DDA that paid parking discourages visitors from coming to North Whittaker businesses.

The city initiated the paid parking in part to generate revenue to support city infrastructure. During the Nov. 17 meeting, Kathy Kochs, owner of Sweetwater Boating, argued the city has money in various funds and from collected taxes that could be used on infrastructure.

Later in the meeting, City Manager Darwin Watson clarified that funds are earmarked for specific projects, and the city only retains 9 mills from property taxes, with the remaining money being collected by Berrien County and the State of Michigan.

DDA Board Chair Ben Smock and vice chair Robert Kemper told the council the DDA has met to come up with alternative measures to the parking problem. As part of the initiative, the DDA has committed to organizing a shuttle service and several businesses have found alternative parking solutions for their employees to reduce the number of spaces taken.

DDA Board Chair Ben Smock and vice chair Robert Kemper told the council the DDA has met to come up with alternative measures to the parking problem. As part of the initiative, the DDA has committed to organizing a shuttle service and several businesses have found alternative parking solutions for their employees to reduce the number of spaces taken.

Smock added that people who do not want to pay for parking will leave their cars along residential streets, creating new congestion.

The council heard from R&R Pyrotechnics, the company handling the Fourth of July fireworks in the city. As 2026 will be the country's 250th anniversary, RR hopes to provide a larger show. In order to do that, they will seek contributions from businesses.

Fireworks prices dramatically increased in 2025 due to new tariffs and limited supplies.

Wreaths Across America is planning to lay wreaths on the graves of veterans across the country on Dec. 13. Locally, there is a goal to mark 250 graves. Organizers are seeking volunteers and donations at wreathsacrossamerica.org.

Katha Kissman of the Harbor Country Museum of History and Rail (formerly the New Buffalo Railroad Museum) told the council that at the December meeting, the museum will present a written proposal to build a display area at the museum to permanently house the city's historic fire pump, which was sent via train to Chicago in response to the city's plea for aid during the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

The council approved a one-time financial adjustment for all 33 city employees. Full-time employees will receive $400 and part-time employees will receive $250. Employees hired this year will receive adjustments based on their hire date.

Based on recommendations from the Planning Commission, the council approved four site plans.

Harbor View Ventures received approval for construction of residences at the corner of Bronson and Detroit streets, identified as Bronson St. Parcel B and Detroit St. Parcel A.

The council approved David Bennett's site plan for a single-family residence at 131 S. Mayhew Street.

Alice and Peter Schulte received conditional approval for a site plan to build a single-family residence at 917 W. Clay. The Planning Commission has required the Schultes to provide the Building Department with the area of the planned driveway, walkway, porch and steps and verification that the driveway does not exceed the 16-foot maximum depth before applying for a building permit,

The council voted to renew the fire service agreement with New Buffalo Township to provide supplemental services as needed. The city entered the agreement to address limited manpower on the city fire department.

Under the renewed agreement, the city will pay the township $60,000 for fire protection, and an additional $24,000 for administrative costs.

The council had the first reading of an amendment to Ordinance Chapter 18; Article 1; Section 18-7, imposing a moratorium of sidewalk requirements during certain construction situations.

In February, the city enacted an ordinance requiring property owners to construct a sidewalk if they construct or dramatically rehabilitate a building. At the November meeting, the council agreed to pause that while deciding on more specific wording.

The council also had the second readings of three other amendments. One to Chapter 7 of the City Code restricts public access to the breakwater at the city beach and imposes fines for climbing on or diving off the structure.

A separate amendment to Article 3 addresses residential structures in commercial zones, and residential structures being used for commercial purposes.

A final amendment to Article 6 sets time limits on temporary signage for nonresidential construction.

The council listened to a presentation from Ava Marie Medoza of the New Buffalo Michigan Bee Committee about plans to establish an official bee community in New Buffalo.

Medoza explained joining the national beekeeping society will involve creating a community apiary with pollinator-friendly pantsand offering public education opportunities.

She said there is a city-owned lot near East Clay Street that could serve as the apiary, if the city is willing to enter a land-lease.

Tom Rowling and Brian Williams of the New Buffalo Community Education Foundation told the council there are plans to use the baseball fields for college summer league games. Williams said New Buffalo offers a central location for schools from Northwest Indiana and Southwest Michigan.

In an update on the Pokagon Fund, Dan Petersen told the council Harding's in Three Oaks is having a Shop and Share program to help provide food to area families in need.

OPINION

What's Playing at the Theater in Galien?

PART 5

BY BILL BURCK

It's so easy to lose one's way in this world. One moment you're admiring an actor's commitment to his craft, the next you find yourself in the Land of Mordor. It's a problem.

If our job is to study and shed light on the theater in Galien, we may need to cast an occasional glance toward Sauron's domain.Sometimes you have to go to Mordor. Just ask Frodo and Sam.

Sometimes you have to make Mordor. Just ask Sauron. Or for that matter, Tim Richter.

I wouldn't recommend doing any of that or getting close to it. I'd stay away.

Unfortunately, some people can't take that advice. They live next door or right down the street. They give directions like, "Just head north on Mt. Zion Road and take a left when you get to Mordor."

They're fed up. Some of them probably lived there in the neighborhood before Mordor was built over their loud and strong objections. Others moved in after. Drove right past the ravaged land and cries of despair, because they weren't that noticeable from the road. Bought their place and then thought, what the hell is going on down there?

Which brings us back to the theater in Galien, which is staging a play based on local civic government called "Regular Board Meeting." Their production follows the rhythms and protocolsof government proceedings. Which taps into the roots of ancient Greek theater, where attendance was a civic and religious duty.A way of inspiring civic reflection and cohesion.

The audience are both citizens and chorus, welcome to step forward and speak at designated spots. Contact the theater in advance, and you may even be placed on the next performance's official bill of fare.

This shows the incredible trust the theater's creative team must have in the play's main actors. Nothing is rehearsed. Just improvise based on whatever these guest performers bring to the table. And that's what happened at the October performance.

A citizen asked to be placed on the program. At his designated time, he presented a petition signed by him and 21 of his fellow citizens, which the Township Clerk then read aloud.

"The residents of Mount Zion Road in Galien, Michigan demand Galien Township to immediately stop all illegal activities at (a lot of words and numbers that essentially mean the Land of Mordor owned by Tim Richter). Galien Township has allowed for almost 20 years numerous illegal activities on this land that have not conformed to the zoning of agricultural and residential."

The petition listed violations of the Galien Township zoning code that "have damaged the land, created noise and dust, polluted the soil, ground water, and have decreased the value of all properties of residents in the area."

It concluded by imploring Galien Township to stop and fine the property owner, test the soil and groundwater for contamination, hire a certified environmental company to clean, remove all debris. In short, remedy this abomination, man.

An incredible moment. And one of the reasons why audience contribution is invited, I'm sure.

The only thing diminishing its dramatic impact was the unplanned absence of Tim Richter, the actor playing the role of Board Supervisor. If only he'd been in the room. Who knows what fireworks might have ensued?

Which is why these performances are not to be missed. The next one will be held on December 17 at 7:00pm in the theater, Township Office, at 305 Kiley Drive, across the road and down a bit from the Dollar General parking lot.

TOWN SQUARE

LETTERS TO THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*:

THE VIEWS HERE DO NOT REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*. THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* ASKS THAT YOUR LETTER TO THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES*, BE UNIQUE, KIND AND BASED ON REASONED FACTS. THE *NEW BUFFALO TIMES* RESERVES THE RIGHT TO NOT PUBLISH ANY CORRESPONDENCE FOR ANY REASON. PLEASE KEEP YOUR LETTERS TO 300 WORDS OR FEWER. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR NAME, PHONE NUMBER AND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE EMAIL YOUR LETTER TO INFO@NEWBUFFALOTIMES.COM. THANK YOU.

New Buffalo Times
LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
— SINCE 1942 —

DEAR PUBLIC...

"Letter to the editor" is deceiving as these are intended for the public! I am commenting on the new series of editorials/opinions about the Galien "Regular Board Meeting".

I grew up with an awareness of local government proceedings which includes the County of which I have been a regular critic in times past. Representatives, no matter how corrupt, deserve a modicum of respect but more so does the seat, the institution.

This is what's left of our tattered government, of local human beings representing the community, before AI, private corps., and the State and Federal government seize the reigns. Treating the seat as theater is overtly disrespectful and is not "rising above", instead it is lowing the bar.

I don't mind calling out corruption and applaud anyone's interest in holding politicians to account. I am not defending their behavior. Instead I am criticizing yours and the publisher which airs it.

This also acts as a test whether my moderate opinion is deemed fit for print. I have written many opinions to both this and The Harbor Country News which are often rejected, yet today an entire page is filled with only one persons opinion on a city meeting this paper doesn't even cover (of which I am aware). I promote the criticism of representatives and free speech (including for myself) but only respectfully.

— MATT KIRKUS

Spinach Leaves, Olive Oil, Apples, Coffee, Wine, and Cabbage
Caffeic Acid
Whole Apples
Quercetin
Blackberries, Bilberries, and Honeyberries
Anthocyanins
Green Tea
EGCG
NATURAL SUN DEFENSE
Adding these antioxidant rich compounds to your diet can improve skin's natural defenses.
Variety of Fruits and Vegetables, Nuts, Coffee, and Tea
Tannins
Grapes, Berries, and Peanuts.
Resveratrol
Celery, Parsley, Broccoli, Carrots, and Cabbage
Luteolin
Holy Basil Tea
Ursolic Acid
TIP: Vitamin D is essential for healthy skin. Foods containing vitamin D include wild caught fish, eggs, mushrooms, and fermented dairy – but they only contain small quantities. Supplements like cod liver oil and sublingual vitamin drops are excellent for maintaining healthy vitamin D levels.
The TRUTH About CANCER
educate • expose • eradicate

Wreaths Across America Day being planned for New Buffalo

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

The public's help is needed to make a Wreaths Across America Day ceremony happen at Pine Grove Cemetery in New Buffalo.

At the New Buffalo Township Board's Monday, Nov. 17, meeting, local coordinator Mike Mumper said that volunteers lay wreaths at veterans' graves. He noted that there are 700 veterans who are buried at Pine Grove.

Mumper said they need to fundraise to purchase the wreaths, which are $17 apiece.

"Our goal is 250 -we're about halfway there now," he said.

To donate or volunteer the day of the event, which is at noon Saturday, Dec. 13, at the cemetery, visit www.wrearthsacrossamerica/MIPINE. A QR code is also available on the township's website.

Jon Jackubowski, code enforcement officer, gave a report that included numbers beginning Jan. 1 to that day.

As of that day, he's handled 91 official complaints, which required some sort of formal action. Of those 91, 11 are still "ongoing." Additionally, there's approximately 80 complaints that he's handled that were either unfounded or the issue was handled at that moment.

Jackubowski said he's issued 28 citations for the year, with one being a food truck violation, one was a burning complaint, three were for short term rental violations and nine were general code violations and14 citations of those were issued to cannabis-related businesses including wall signage, temporary signage and a violation of not having an outdoor assembly permit. Of those 28, three of them are still pending.

Jackubowski said he's issued 28 citations for the year, with one being a food truck violation, one was a burning complaint, three were for short term rental violations and nine were general code violations and14 citations of those were issued to cannabis-related businesses including wall signage, temporary signage and a violation of not having an outdoor assembly permit. Of those 28, three of them are still pending.

To date,136 fire code inspections have been completed, with 85 of those being for rental properties and 51 for commercial ones. Of those 51 commercial businesses, 39 of those were for cannabis ones.

Seven applications are still pending, which means the initial inspection has been completed.

There are 18 renewals for remainder of the year, which would be around 160 inspections for the year. Looking at 2026, there are 193 inspections that are set, with 129 of those for rental properties and 64 for business licenses, which might increase.

Following up on a complaint from a resident at last month's meeting alleging a violation of Urb Cannabis being open after hours, Jakubowksi said he spoke with the general manager the next day and saw video footage and it was determined that there wasn't anyone inside the business and the cars in the parking lot belonged to people being shuttled to and from a private event at Whittaker Woods.

Board members adopted a resolution that states the township's opposition to the AxMiTax. Statewide referendum, which, if approved, would eliminate property taxes.

Board members adopted a resolution that accepts the terms of the agreement with the State of Michigan for the MDNR Trust Fund Grant application in the amount of $300,000 for Phase Two of the Marquette Greenway. Township Supervisor Michelle Heit said matching funds for this grant come from a RAISE Grant Indiana has received.

Board members recommended to the Planning Commission to consider an amendment to the zoning ordinance that includes residential and short-term rentals, which aren't currently in it, and to increase the hours provisioning centers and marijuana businesses would be closed, and that they wouldn't be open from 7 p.m. to 9 a.m.

A second payment application of $158,407.98 to BG Construction for the Tribute Plaza project was approved.

Board members granted three easements to AEP on township properties on Clay Street for their power pole replacement project.

Board members approved an agreement between the City of New Buffalo and the township to continue providing supplemental fire services to the city as well as the accommodating addendum through Dec. 31, 2026.

A quote for Genesis for $53,985 for extrication equipment and a quote from Hoosier Fire Equipment Inc. for $43,732.70 were approved.

A payment application for $75,053.60 to Compton Inc for work at the Glassman Park disc golf course was approved.

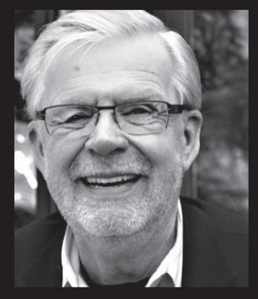
A ninth payment application of $180,938.69 to PayJay, Inc. and fourth change order for the U.S. 12 water sewer project were approved. Heit said it's completed and they're working on a punch list of items, adding the change order lowers the contractor's amount by $88,873.30

The following outdoor assembly permits were approved: Levels at 11430 Holladay Drive from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 28 and Cookies at 19001 U.S. 12 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Nov. 29.

Get Involved!
Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.
- Aldous Huxley
Every day, the government makes decisions that can affect your life. Whether they are decisions on zoning, taxes, new businesses or myriad other issues, governments play a big role in your life.
Governments have relied on newspapers like this one to publish public notices since the birth of the nation. Local newspapers remain the most trusted source of public notice information. This newspaper publishes the information you need to stay involved in your community.
Public Notice
Resource Center
Notices are meant to be noticed.

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

From the Bleachers



COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

Being the eternal optimist, I'm not completely surprised that the Chicago Bears are off to a great start.

They were so bad last year that they were embarrassed. After years of mediocrity, the Bears dropped to horrible. The coach, who seemed like a nice man, just didn't have enough confidence or imagination to be a head coach, and after a tough loss, his team quit on him. Lifelong Bears fans were on the fence about quitting on their team. Something had to be done.

The first thing, and the most important thing, was to hire a new head coach. Every team that wanted a new coach wanted the same guy, and lo and behold, that very coach wanted to come to Chicago.

That coach, Ben Johnson, certainly didn't lack confidence or imagination. The first time he walked into the teams facilities, you could tell things were going to be drastically better. He commanded respect from everyone there. Fans went from despair to hope virtually overnight.

Johnson convinced General Manager Ryan Poles that the offensive line needed help, and Poles did a great job of replacing or fortifying four of the five positions. When the draft came up, they drafted a tight end and then a wide receiver, who both look like they'll be terrific football players, but fans wanted a running back and or a lineman.

The season began with a terrible loss to the Vikings when they blew a big lead in the fourth quarter, then a blowout loss against the Lions.

Fans began to worry, but coach Johnson just worked harder and demanded more from his players.

The result has been seven wins in the last eight games and believe it or not, the Bears are all alone in first place. While most Bears fans expected improvement this season, I'm not sure if anyone thought they would lead their division after 10 games, with the possible exception of coach Ben Johnson.

While the season has been a huge success so far, seven games remain. I believe that it will probably take 10 wins to earn a spot in the playoffs. Being in first place right now is nice, but making the playoffs would be special.

My dream scenario would be for the Bears to beat the Lions and the Packers twice to make the playoffs. They also play the Steelers next week and it would be really nice to beat Aaron Rodgers.

That leaves the 49ers, Eagles, and Browns, and I guess I'll be happy whoever they beat.

Making the playoffs this season will just be a stepping stone to the ultimate prize, the Super Bowl. Not making the playoffs would just delay the process. Hiring coach Johnson was the Bears best move since they hired coach Ditka. I can't wait until the season plays out.

Helen Keller said, "Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Divide each difficulty into as many parts as is feasible and necessary to resolve it.
— Rene Descartes

Rebuilt Lakers off to undefeated start in boys' basketball

BY STAN MADDUX

The boys' high school basketball team at La Lumiere with practically all new faces is off to an undefeated start to the season.

Head Coach Pat Holmes believes this year's team has what it takes to get the program back into the national tournament and win it again.

The Lakers were not among the eight teams receiving bids for last year's tournament, which the Lakers won in 2017.

"This is the most talented team we've had in a while, the last five or six years. I really like this group," he said.

The Lakers opened the season on Nov. 7 with a 98-70 win at home against Bosco Institute from Crown Point, Indiana.

Two more home games ended in blowout victories the following week against Jordan Christian Prep out of Florida and Stony Brook School from New York.

The La Lumiere roster includes 6'3" point guard Jonathan Sanders, a lightning quick senior from Ann Arbor, Michigan and center Gon Solango, a 7' foot, 270-pound senior from Mongolia.

Sanders and Solango are committed to play next season at the University of Notre Dame.

Jacob Wheeler, a 6'6" senior forward from Nebraska and Rivers Knight, a 6'9" senior forward from North Carolina have signed to play next season at Purdue University.

Another senior, Gabe Weiss, a 6'7" forward, has committed to the University of Western Kentucky.

The roster also includes a number of highly ranked juniors such as 6'3" Devin Cleveland out of Chicago; 6'2" Peyton Kemp from the Detroit area and 6'8" Ferlandes Wright from Louisville, Kentucky.

Despite 11 new members on the team, Holmes said the players seem to have gelled quickly and embraced their individual roles on the court.

"They're a very competitive group, which is what we needed," he said.

Holmes said the team last year didn't perform as well as expected and hopes the fast start this year will lead to a second national championship banner going up inside Marsch Gymnasium.

"We need another one. We got the group who can do it. Got to stay healthy but we got talented guys that play really well together and have a chance to beat anyone in the country," he said.

CHURCH OF THE MEDIATOR TO HOST INDIGENOUS ART SHOW AND RECEPTION

The Arts of Mediator will be hosting a reception at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator at 14280 Red Arrow Highway in Harbert for the Indigenous Art Show at noon Sunday, Nov. 23, in celebration of National Native American Heritage Month.

The art being displayed is from the personal collection of Ruth Merrifield and none of the works are for sale. The Indigenous Art Show will be available for viewing through Nov. 29. Show times are Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon and on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact the church office 269-469-1441 or office@mediatorharbert.com if you have any questions. — STAFF REPORTS

Students stage 'Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?'

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

A tale involving some innocent pigs, a wolf and a little girl in a red riding hood – with a twist - came to life onstage at the New Buffalo Performing Arts Center with the New Buffalo Area Schools Drama Department's performance of "Who's Afraid of The Big Bad Wolf" Friday - Sunday, Nov. 14-16.

Written by Tom McCabe, the hilarious comedy cleverly combines the tale of "Three Little Pigs" and "Little Red Riding Hood," with a very hungry wolf stuck between them.

The cast of characters were Hoshi Valarezo/ Beckett Frum as Cornelius B.B. Wolf, Makalia Lister as Little Red Riding Hood, Shawna Yech as Piedmont Pierre, Charlie Alvarez as Porky, Xaydan Metz as Bacon Bits, Jonah Kirby as Oink, Mackenzie Luehring as Grandma Hood and Islay Welter as Mrs. Hood.

The play was directed by Dwayne Whitmyer. Students in the Arts in Engineering class designed the set.

Grandma Hood (Mackenzie Luehring) has some words with the audience

Cornelius B.B. Wolf, who was portrayed by Hoshi Valarezo, gives flowers to Little Red Riding Hood (Makaila Lister)

Cornelius B.B. Wolf,m(Hoshi Valarezo) has a word with the audience

Cornelius B.B. Wolf (Hoshi Valarezo) visits Grandma Hood (Mackenzie Luehring)

The cast does a dance to close the performance

Little Red Riding Hood, who was portrayed by Makaila Lister, has a discussion with Mrs. Hood, who was portrayed by Islay Welter

The cast gathers onstage

BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTY AND RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY GIFT CARD AND

Book your holiday party before Thanksgiving and **receive a complimentary gift card** as our thank-you.

(Please note: the gift card cannot be redeemed on the day of your event.)

SONNY D'S BAR & GRILL • NEW BUFFALO •

Sonny D's
FOR EVERY 5 CATERING ORDERS
RECEIVE A FREE CANNOLI DIP TR

Rocco's TAVERN

EVERY SUNDAY
FROM NOON
Until We Run Out!

FULL SLAB OF RIBS & FRESH CUT FRIES

827 FRANKLIN STREET | MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360
219.355.3047

INTEGRITY • EXPERIENCE • SUCCESS

L & B

LAROSE & BOSCO, LTD.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CHICAGO, IL • NEW BUFFALO, MI
MARK A. LAROSE
mlarose@laroseboscolaw.com

Real Estate, Business Law, Commercial Transactions, Injury Law

New Buffalo: (269) 469-8440
Chicago: (312) 642-4414

30 N Whittaker St
Deli by day

David's
delicatessen & coffee
NEW BUFFALO · MICHIGAN

Open 6 days
davidsdeliandcoffee.com

WHEN YOU LOOK GOOD, YOU FEEL GOOD
the Love Spell boutique
9 W MECHANIC ST
NEW BUFFALO, MI

AUTUMN
ARTISAN MARKET
SHOPPING · TASTINGS · FOOD & DRINKS

TWO MARKETS · TWO LOCATIONS

NOVEMBER 15 & 16 | 10AM - 5PM (EST)
AT THE FEATHERBONE FACTORY | THREE OAKS, MI

NOVEMBER 22 & 23 | 10AM - 5PM (CST)
AT THE AMERICAN FACTORY | VALPARAISO, IN

SCAN FOR MORE
JOURNEYMAN.COM/EVENTS

JOURNEYMAN
THREE OAKS, MI | VALPARAISO, IN

the one and only
the ACORN
THREE OAKS · MICHIGAN
acornlive.org

NOW SERVING FULL BAR!!!
GET A MARGARITA!
BOOK OUR BANQUET HALL FOR ANY EVENT!

AL FUEGO
GRILL & BAR
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

BREAKFAST
LUNCH • DINNER

OPEN DAILY • 7AM-10PM
18529 Harbor Country Drive
NEW BUFFALO
FIND US ON GOOGLE

Special grant from Tionesta Foundation to reprint ‘New Buffalo Story: 1983-1976’

Thanks to the Tionesta Foundation, the Harbor Country Museum of History + Rail Board of Directors is pleased to announce the reprinting of “The New Buffalo Story: 1834-1976.”

When it was clear that the current stock was about to be depleted, the Tionesta BCS Foundation offered to pay in full for the printing.

“We would not have been able to ensure the ongoing availability of this valuable community resource without the support of the Tionesta BCS Foundation. They were wonderful to work with and so supportive of this need,” said Katha Kissman, board secretary-treasurer and volunteer administrator. “The books are now in hand just in time for the holidays.”

In addition, the museum thanks Brian Schiller of New Buffalo Area Schools and the School Yearbook Staff, who assisted with scanning over 200 pages from the previous book and Phil Page of Josten’s/Page Memories, who served as the publisher.

“The New Buffalo Story: 1834-1976” was originally printed as part of the 1976 United States Bicentennial celebration by the New Buffalo Area Bicentennial Committee, chaired by the Terry Redamak and including Ronald Oselka, Erich Hamburger, and Elizabeth McNeill. “The New Buffalo Story” is the only book of its kind to comprehensively document the history of the New Buffalo area through narrative and rare photos. A second printing in 1976 included supplemental pages which celebrated the completion and dedication of the New Buffalo Harbor, a project undertaken by the Army Corp of Engineers. This project constructed two breakwaters to better serve recreational navigation interests at the mouth of the Galien River. Both printings of “The New Buffalo Story” also included personal pages showcasing area individuals, families, organizations, and businesses. And in 2011, the book was reprinted in 2011 through the generosity of The Pokagon Fund.

Editorial Staff for the original book included Nadra Kissman, Norma Cook, Elizabeth McNeill, and Sandra Lapham with coordination by Judy Smith, and volunteer assistance from Dolores Roderick, Minnie Ellwanger, Elsie Oselka, Fran Prusa, Claire Strandburg, Betty Valentiejus, Rick Schroeter, Don Wehner, Rob Reyher, Cheryl Cook Bates, Ronald Ferguson, Diana Krueger, Katha Kissman, and Steve Salaba. In addition, over 220 area families provided pictures and other materials for The New Buffalo Story.

To find out how to get your copy, visit www.harborcountrymuseum.org/shop.

The mission of the Harbor Country Museum of History + Rail, previously known as the New Buffalo Railroad Museum, is to preserve our history and enrich our community for future generations. For more information, contact ask@harborcountrymuseum.org.— STAFF REPORTS

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

A Writer’s Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

The Dynamite Duo

At the risk of sounding like I’m bragging — and remember what I quoted University of Alabama Coach Bear Bryant as saying waaaaay back at the beginning of my columns: “It ain’t braggin’ if you can back it up” — there are few writers who have my relentless work ethic.

There are writers who work to put food on the table and help support their family. There are writers who work to get the material things they want out of life. There are writers who enjoy their work and other writers — honestly, I’ve known a few — who don’t enjoy their work. In my industry we call those writers ‘hacks’ — people just writing to make a buck. And then there are writers who love their work.

Ray Dryden loved his work. A producer by trade, he was a born storyteller, and a born writer. I intuitively knew he would fit well into writing for children’s television. He’d earned his bones writing for Heathcliff and the Catillac Cats and I decided he’d be my cohort on the M.A.S.K. assignment.

So now, along with me, he’d have a new and different kind of opportunity — pounding out five episodes from story springboards to treatments to scripts in just two short weeks. I thought he’d love it as much as I knew I would, and I was right.

Now, back in my office, I called Ray to give him the good news. He was elated. One of the best things about being a story editor was delivering good news to writers. “Your story springboard was approved, now write the treatment.” “Your treatment was approved, now write the script.” “Your script was approved, now submit an invoice.”

It would be nice if my being a story editor was that easy and fun. It wasn’t not. There was a lot of work between all that good news — helping writers to mold their springboards so they had the best chance of getting them approved. Killing parts that fell flat. Adding a word or an idea here and there to buff it up. And sometimes — ARRRRRR! — doing a complete line edit on a treatment when it was needed so the treatment came into ‘house style’ and worked with the rest of the series.

For actual scripts my work as a story editor generally was less detailed because the treatment had already been molded. But, again sometimes, there was a lot of work that had to be done — ARRRRRR! again — because the writer’s script went off the rails. Those were the times I earned my pay.

I’d also come to realize story editors spent a good amount of their time dealing with sometimes fragile egos and personalities.

As I’ve said, I came from a mercantile family, so I always viewed my work as a product. Sure, it was a part of me and I cared for it deeply. But in the final analysis I’d always looked at my story editor output as merchandize to be placed into the marketplace where it would find ‘customers’ who cared about it as much as I did.

This assignment for Ray Dryden and me to write 10 episodes of M.A.S.K. in two weeks (!) was an extraordinary moment in which to delivery extraordinarily good news. And deliver it I did.

What I hadn’t counted on was that just a week later the M.A.S.K. assignment would turn into the most traumatic event in my young writing career...

HOROSCOPE

NOVEMBER 20-26, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Prepare yourself for some unexpected expenses or requests for financial help from family this week. This is about honoring commitments and seeing things through to completion, no matter the cost. Your ability to improvise and make the most out of what you have on hand will prove your most valuable asset now.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

This week the energy is all about understanding the power of the word and how important it is to stay in the communication loop. Friends and partners can really help you see alternative methods, when things get locked up. If you are in a complicated technical situation reach out to friends and family.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

It's time to get things organized and freshened. Go through cabinets, drawers and office files. Freshen up your work space so that you will spend more time working than wasting time trying to find things. There's a lot that can be gained this by making a good impression. Appearing to be neat and organized can mean getting the job or not right now.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

The vibe coming your way this week is all about opening your heart and learning to love again. It's not just the ability to open your heart emotionally but to be strong in who you are despite the differences you may have with a loved one. This is about being true to yourself.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

Understanding your heritage and the lives your parents lived will be front and center this week. Don't sugar coat things or gloss over facts. This is about accepting the truth of situations and honoring the strengths and personal fortitude that came from the experience.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

This week the energy is all about using your ability to communicate with all types of people and getting to a place of consensus. Finding common ground with people you generally disagree with will be the key to unlocking your own relationship blockages or the obstacles that have kept you from getting close to someone.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

Sometimes just the appearance of having the skill or financial support will win you the support of a competent partner that actually knows the things you don't. That is paramount this week. If you want to succeed and attract the right partner, carry yourself with confidence and certainty and the rest will fall into place nicely.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

First and foremost your feet have to be on your own path. The idea that you have to surrender your independence or alter your course because you have a partner that wants you to be a certain way will not work for you anymore. This is the time to be completely true to your heart and creative projects.

SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

This is the week to go deep within the self and face the darker side of your personality. Pull back from social engagements and really investigate your feelings on your own. This is all about creating safe space for yourself and opening up to what it is you really need from partners, work and family.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

The lesson this week is one in understanding the power of friendship and cooperation. Let your hair down and remove yourself from the stiffness of having to be the boss. Its time to go with the flow and be more vulnerable with your emotions.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18

It's time to dig in and get your homework completed. This is the time to really hammer out difficult tasks and meet deadlines that you may have had looming. Create those spreadsheets. Send out the emails and finish any the paperwork now. It's all about the power of hard work and the willingness to sacrifice playtime for success.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

The energy radiating from the stars this week is all about following your heart and listening to your own calling. Avoid getting trapped in someone else's ideas of what your career or lifestyle should be like. It's time for you to experiment and find the things that you truly like and want to do.

No problem can withstand the assault of sustained thinking. — *Voltaire*

THE BENDT SHOVEL
Perennial Garden Maintenance
Sandra Bendt
(219) 874-2269

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

		2			7	8	4	1
	4	8	5					
8	3							
1								5
		5		9				
					5	2		
9			3			1		
	2	3			4		8	7

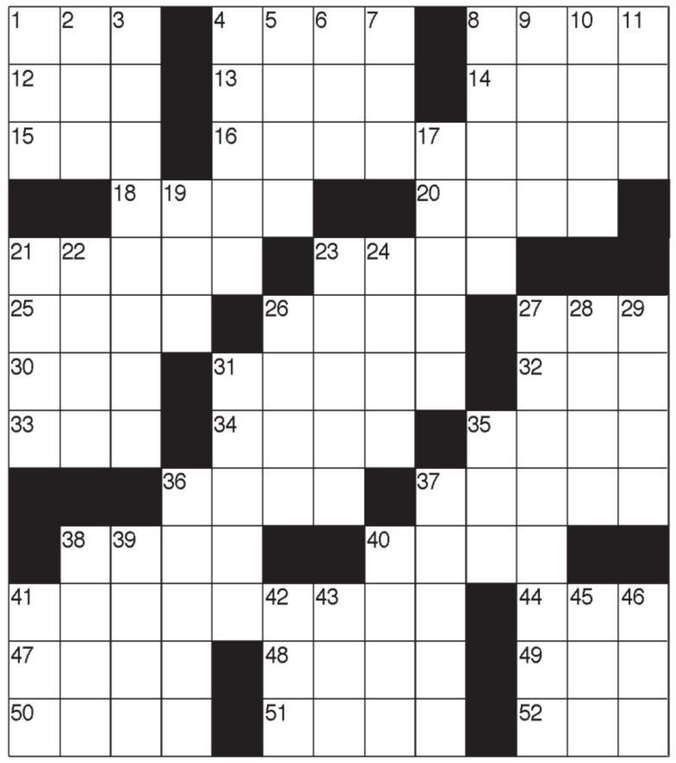
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Pat
4 Tablespoon (abbr.)
8 Ironwood
12 Amer. Football League (abbr.)
13 Lower intestine
14 Caviar fish
15 British thermal unit (abbr.)
16 Skew (2 words)
18 Saga
20 Kernel (pref.)
21 Annoy
23 Atomic physicists
25 Another (Sp.)
26 Spotted cavy
27 Compass direction
30 Women's Army Corps (abbr.)
31 Serious
32 Equal opportunity employer (abbr.)
33 Ultimate degree
34 N.Z. bird
35 Buddhist female deity
36 Tough
37 Cordage fiber
38 Norwegian king
40 Loudness measure
41 Yon (2 words)
44 Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
47 Jump
48 Project
49 Mountain on Crete
50 Bond movie (2 words)
51 Dear (Fr.)
52 Eye-infesting worm

DOWN

1 Flap
2 Astern
3 Gr. author
4 Dominion
5 Unhappy
6 Brythonic sea god
7 Saint (Sp.)
8 Brazilian nutritious drink
9 Hand (pref.)
10 Female
11 Gelderland city
17 Mogul emperor
19 Jap. volcanic crater
21 Village
22 State (Fr.)
23 Fanatical
24 Scientific name (suf.)
26 Rain
27 Whelk (2 words)
28 Cold Adriatic wind
29 Wale
31 Bar
35 Uncle (Sp.)
36 Marx brother
37 Cut
38 Remaining
39 Cant
40 Kill (Scot.)
41 Hoary
42 This one (Lat.)
43 Anglo-Saxon letter
45 Bother
46 Antiaircraft artillery (abbr.)



DOWNTOWN LA PORTE BUILDINGS UNDERGOING TOTAL RENOVATIONS

Two longtime vacant buildings in downtown La Porte are being extensively remodeled for future use.

One of them is a five-story structure on Monroe Street just north of Lincolnway. The plan there is to offer commercial space on the main level and apartments on the upper floors in one of the tallest buildings in the downtown, said Bert Cook, Executive Director of the La Porte Economic Advancement Partnership.

Cook said the building has been empty for at least 20 years.

"I'm sure it's longer than that," he said.

Cook said the work is about 30 percent completed.

The other building renovation is where La Porte Sporting Goods once existed until closing over a decade ago in the 900 block of Lincolnway across from the courthouse.

Cook said the plans there also call for commercial space on the main level and about a half dozen apartments on the second and third floors. He estimated that project to be about halfway finished with completion expected in the spring.

Cook said the investment in the properties both owned by La Porte area residents will further the progress in the revitalization downtown has experienced over the past several years.

"You're going to have two very new spaces in the downtown. That's terrific. I think it just pushes that snowball we talk about. The momentum that's been created by the investment in downtown La Porte," he said. — STAN MADDUX

ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE
PLEASE CONTACT
JANINE L. ADAMSKI
JANINEADAMSKI@GMAIL.COM
(630) 370-0820

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS
HARBOR COUNTRY INSURANCE AGENCY
Gregory A. Bubb, CIC
269-469-4438
212 S Whittaker St.
New Buffalo, MI
www.HARBORCOUNTRYINSURANCE.com

Web Design Genesis
Genesis Web Design
St Joseph, MI
269.429.7014
Design • Maintenance • Hosting

PROFESSIONALS IN ALL OF YOUR TREE CARE NEEDS
MAPLE CITY TREE SPECIALISTS
REMOVAL
TOPPING
TRIMMING
STUMP GRINDING
PRESERVATION
STORM DAMAGE
LOT & LAND CLEARING
FREE ESTIMATES
Commercial • Residential
37 Years Experience • Insured
DENNIS JEFFERS, SR.
219-393-3155
maplecitytree@comcast.net

100 ACRE FARM
LAWN CARE & SNOW REMOVAL, LLC
MOWING
EDGING
LANDSCAPING
MULCHING
POWER WASHING
SEASONAL CLEAN-UPS
10% DISCOUNT FIRST SERVICE FOR MILITARY & SENIORS
269-586-4303

CLEAN AIR
Cleaning Services
Residential
Commerical
Rentals
Move-Ins • Move-Outs
Deep Cleans
10% Discount First Service for Military & Seniors
269-586-4303

LARGEST SELECTION OF SPAS in the Area!
Artesian Spas · Nordic Hot Tubs · CalderaSpas Come to Life
SENSATIONAL Spas
Monday-Friday 9-5
Saturday 9-2
5595 Red Arrow Hwy.
Stevensville
269-429-7171
35 YEARS ANNIVERSARY
WWW.SENSATIONALHOTTUBS.COM

To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

DEPRESSION DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

All of us experience some form of depression at some time in our lives. Rather it is the loss of a loved one, a relationship separation, financial strain, a health crisis, a business deal gone bad, or even the change that time brings of memories gone by. You often hear people talk about "wishing they were back in the good old days" where memories were better than the actual life they are living. We can all say this occasionally, but for those suffering depression, it is a real feeling of despair.

For many, the Holiday season brings on depression in a deeper way than usual. It can start prior to Thanksgiving and linger on through the New Year and even longer, due to Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD.) This can cause exhaustion and low energy on top of the depression due to less sunlight and getting outdoors.

Depression can create a physical and mental stress response in your body. Cortisol and adrenaline surge, increasing your heart rate and blood pressure. Neurotransmitters like dopamine and oxytocin can drop increasingly, intensifying the feelings of loss and even create physical pain. Some symptoms that you may experience are an overwhelming feeling of sadness, loneliness, increased stress and anxiety, irritability and frustration over little things. These feelings can create immune weakness and inflammation in your body. This can then decrease your gut microbiome causing digestive disorders. Also, during depression, people may eat more processed and sugar laden foods as a crutch. Some may turn to drugs or alcohol to numb the physical and emotional pain.

To deal with holiday depression, prioritize self-care like exercise. Be serious about healthy eating, and getting enough rest. Stay away from parties that are going to include alcohol.

Financial concerns, gift-giving pressure, and the need to maintain a cheerful demeanor can increase stress. Timewith difficult family members, strained relationships, or the absence of loved ones can intensify feelings of loneliness.

For individuals with pre-existing mental health conditions, the added stress of the holidays can worsen symptoms. Acknowledge and accept your emotions rather than trying to force happiness.

Communicate. Holding emotions, inside will only deepen them. Talk to trusted friends, a loved one, or evena therapist about what you are experiencing can helprelease some pent-up pain.

Lower your expectations and focus on what you can control. Celebrate your own traditions rather than trying to live up to a perfect ideal. Make sure to be involved. Hiding yourself away will only intensify your depression.

Engage in activities that help you relax and recharge, such as exercise, spending time in nature, walking your dog, or anything that does not include addicting substances. This includes sugary processed and chemically laden foods.

Be mindful. Focus on your senses and the present moment to reduce anxiety. Dwelling on what you do not have will worsen symptoms. Performing random acts of kindness can boost your mood and release happy hormones like serotonin.

We cannot change the situation, but we can change how our body and nervous system reacts to stress

Disclaimer: Everything here is for nutritional education and is not meant to diagnose, treat prevent or cure. See your doctor when you have questions.

PET OF THE WEEK

ZEUS

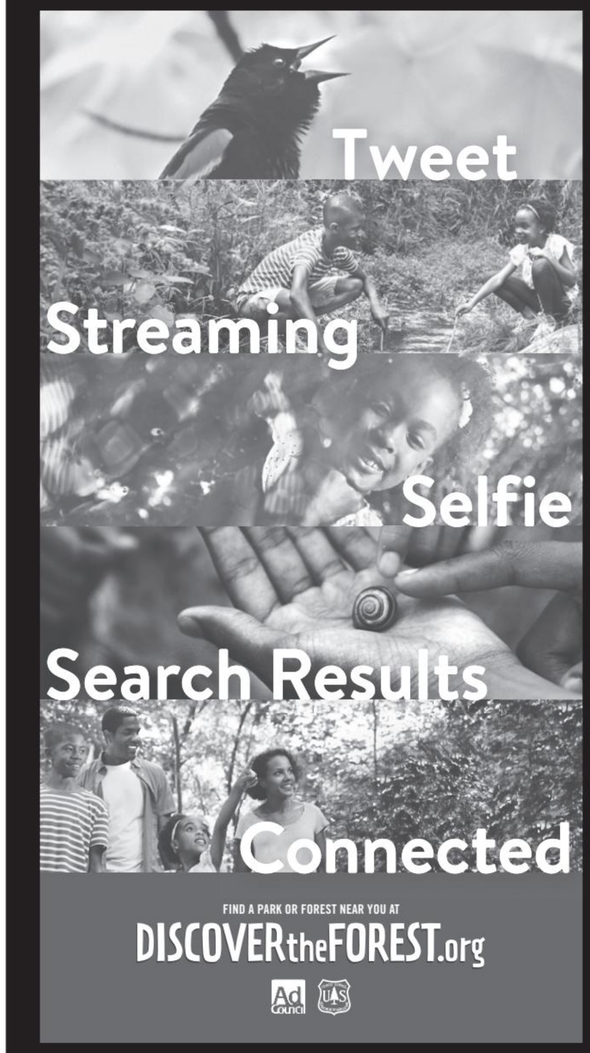
Zeus is your and your dog's new best friend. This Husky puppy is almost 5-months-old, his vaccinations are up-to-date, and he is neutered. That explains why he is so energetic. Zeus is polite with treats, knows how to sit, and will be your shadow for a hot second. Zeus loves his walks and zoomies, as well his puzzle toys. Zeus currently sleeps in his kennel at night, and is doing well with getting potty trained. Make Zeus part of your home today.

AVAILABLE AT THE MICHIANA HUMANE SOCIETY

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

7	1	6	8	4	9	3	5	2
5	9	2	6	3	7	8	4	1
3	4	8	5	2	1	9	7	6
8	3	4	1	5	6	7	2	9
1	6	9	2	7	8	4	3	5
2	7	5	4	9	3	6	1	8
4	8	1	7	6	5	2	9	3
9	5	7	3	8	2	1	6	4
6	2	3	9	1	4	5	8	7

T	A	P	■	T	B	L	S	■	A	C	L	E
A	F	L	■	I	L	E	A	■	S	H	A	D
B	T	U	■	T	U	R	N	A	S	I	D	E
■	■	T	A	L	E	■	■	K	A	R	Y	■
T	E	A	S	E	■	R	A	B	I	■	■	■
O	T	R	O	■	P	A	C	A	■	S	B	W
W	A	C	■	S	O	B	E	R	■	E	O	E
N	T	H	■	H	U	I	A	■	T	A	R	A
■	■	■	H	A	R	D	■	S	I	S	A	L
■	O	L	A	F	■	■	P	H	O	N	■	■
O	V	E	R	T	H	E	R	E	■	A	A	A
L	E	A	P	■	I	D	E	A	■	I	D	A
D	R	N	O	■	C	H	E	R	■	L	O	A



Chamber celebrates year of continued growth at annual dinner, meeting

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Both longtime and newer members, as well as how they've have contributed to what Harbor Country Chamber of Commerce Executive director Kimberlee Wendt calls the area's "remarkable transformation," were recognized at the chamber's annual dinner and meeting Thursday, Nov. 13, at Section House in Sawyer.

"You, by joining the chamber, unite our voices to champion what Harbor Country stands for – our shared identity and collective passion. You believe in us as a group investing in each other and continuing the focus on our area with the people who are your neighbors and fellow business owners," Wendt said.

Wendt recognized those who have been members for over 35 to 40 years who were in attendance: Dan Coffey from ReMax Harbor Country, who's a very early member; Chuck and Liz Garasic from Sweet Haven Resort, who joined in the early 1990s and Tim Rogers from Fusion Design.

"They were part of a small group that supported the new name to the area – the iconic trademark Harbor Country," Wendt said.

Thanks to the dedication of its members, Wendt said that the chamber remains independent and not reliant on state or tax funds.

Per the financial report that was prepared by treasurer John Quackenbush, the chamber is "experiencing continued financially sound growth."

This year, the chamber had over 28 ribbon cuttings of new businesses, organizations and public spaces and welcomed 65 new members. Since launching in April, all 45,000 2025 Harbor Country guides have been completely distributed. There are also 85,000 users on HarborCountry.org.

The chamber's Coast In promotional campaign, which was inspired by the "casual, comfortable, inner feeling of peace when you finally get to call Harbor Country home," has resulted in an unprecedented number of social media followers.

"The influx of this energy fuels what is strengthening our local economy and enriching our communities – enticing people more than ever to choose to make this area their full-time and forever home," Wendt said.

This year, Patty Knicker, member development manager, has planned Harbor Country Mixers and Happy Hours, coordinated a record number of ribbon cuttings and regularly checked in with members to "ensure everyone feels supported."

"She's not just my right hand – she's a master multi-tasker who helps keep this nonprofit running strong through every challenge," Wendt said.

In 2026, which marks the chamber's 45th year, Wendt said that their focus on economic development will "move from planning to action – with real initiatives and visible progress you'll be able to see and feel in our community."

"So, mark my words – when we gather again next year, we'll be celebrating how we turned our intentions into achievements and how, together, we reached new horizons and goals for Harbor Country."

Members of the 2025-2026 board of directors are social member John Bonkoske, president; Heather Gradowski of Coldwell Banker Real Estate Team – Choose Chad, vice president; Jessica Nance of Red Arrow Roasters, secretary; social member John Quakenbush, treasurer; Davd McNabb of Edward Jones, director; Rachel Watkins of Fifth Third Bank Sawyer Branch, director; Erika Milovich of Bluefish Vacation Rentals, director; Pam Wessler of Falatic's Meat market, director; social member Justin Frederickson, director and social member JoAnne Fitzsimmons Abele, incoming director.

Winners of this year's Member to Member Awards were Servpro of Berrien County, Most Community Minded Business in Harbor Country; Cornerstone Alliance, Most Economic Impact in Harbor Country and Rising Kites Coffee, The Best New Business in Harbor Country.

Ambassador Committee volunteers, who were behind that night's event were Becky Martin of BCM Organizing, Karen Poff of Horizon Bank New Buffalo, Rebecca Gardner/Reilly of Mobility Wise, Tara Gallagher of Budget Blinds of St. Joseph and Mary Lou Johnson, former president and social member.

Pam Wessler volunteered on the Annual Event Task Force to plan and set up for the event and Jess Nance from Red Arrow Roasters helped with set up.

The evening included hors d'oeuvres from Classic Catering; cocktails, wine and beer from Twist and Stout; lounge areas from sponsor White Dahlia & Co.; local vintages from sponsor Nitz Wines in Baroda; cold craft beer from Lake Time Brewing & Spirits and coffee from Red Arrow Roasters. The mid-century lounge soundtrack was provided by sponsor Witz DJ Service.

Owned by Drew and Johanna Ytterberg, Section House is located at 5896 Sawyer Road in Sawyer.

Heather Gradowski, John Bonkoske, Jess Nance and John Quckenbush are sworn in as officers

Sales and Marketing ManagerAllison Brown accepts ServPro's "Most Community Minded Business" Award

Marla Schnieder, president and CEO of Cornerstone, accepts the Most Economic Impact Award from Patty Knicker

Sarah Kwak (right), accepts the Best New Business award with founder Danielle Grandholm

David and Joshua Workman, Kim Murphy, Andy Brown and Bob Murphy mingle at the dinner

The 2025-2026 Board of Directors is sworn in

Auto-Owners INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Harbor Country Insurance Agency

Gregory A. Bubb, CIC
269-469-4438
212 S Whittaker St.
New Buffalo, MI

www.HARBORCOUNTRYINSURANCE.com

Calvary Chapel New Buffalo

CALVARYCHAPELNB.ORG

We are a non-denominational church teaching through the bible line by line
Sunday service 1015 ET
Thursday bible study 7pm ET
Saturday men's bible study 915 ET in person and zoom
Saturday women's bible study 1030 ET on zoom
1615 E Buffalo St. New Buffalo, Mi

Bloomery
11429 O'Brien Ct, New Buffalo, MI 49117
BLOOMERYCANNABIS.COM

EXIT 1's Best Recreational Selection

BEST PRICES · HIGH QUALITY PRODUCTS · PREMIER LOYALTY PROGRAM · + SO MUCH MORE

LOYALTY LEVEL-UP REWARDS
WE PRICE MATCH
CURBSIDE PICKUP

FREE INFUSED PRE ROLL with $30 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE GRAM OF WAX with $50 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE MITTEN+ 1G DISPOSABLE with $60 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE 3.5 GRAMS FLOWER with $75 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE 7 GRAMS FLOWER with $99 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE MITTEN PREROLL MULTIPACK with $125 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

30% OFF with $150 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

FREE BLUE TIER OUNCE with $200 purchase
EXPIRES 8/20/24
Coupons can not be combined or stacked. Rules and restrictions apply. Limit 1 offer per customer. Valid at Bloomery New Buffalo

30 N Whittaker St
Bar by night

the FALSE FRONT
NEW BUFFALO • MI

Open Thursday-Monday
thefalsefrontbar.com

TREECORE
COMPLETE TREE & CRANE SERVICE
269-469-6226
Fully Insured JOE CARR

Trust It To Be Wonderful

16409 Red Arrow Highway | Union Pier

PURE NEW BUFFALO

BLACK FRIDAY PREGAME!

PURE CANNABIS OUTLET

10271 US-12, NEW BUFFALO, MI 49117

(269)-649-PURE | 9AM-8:45PM

$25 OFF

YOUR ORDER OF $50 OR MORE!

REG. PRICE ITEMS ONLY

USE CODE: BFPREGAME

EXP: 1/1/2026

VALID AT PURE NEW BUFFALO ONLY. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SALES OR DISCOUNTS RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY. ALL MULTI ITEM DEALS APPLY TO SELECT BRANDS ONLY. PURE CANNABIS OUTLET RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECLINE ANY COUPON FOR ANY REASON. COUPON IS TO BE MARKED BY BUDTENDER AFTER USE. YOU MAY ONLY USE ONE COUPON PER VISIT. LIMIT EACH COUPON TO ONE USE ONLY.

It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana. For use by individuals 21 years of age or older or registered qualifying patients only. Keep out of reach of children. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

WARNING: USE BY PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, OR BY WOMEN PLANNING TO BECOME PREGNANT, MAY RESULT IN FETAL INJURY, PRETERM BIRTH, LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, OR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE CHILD.

VALID AT PURE NEW BUFFALO ONLY. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SALES OR DISCOUNTS RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY. ALL MULTI ITEM DEALS APPLY TO SELECT BRANDS ONLY. PURE CANNABIS OUTLET RESERVES THE RIGHT TO DECLINE ANY COUPON FOR ANY REASON. COUPON IS TO BE MARKED BY BUDTENDER AFTER USE. YOU MAY ONLY USE ONE COUPON PER VISIT. LIMIT EACH COUPON TO ONE USE ONLY.

PRESENT THIS COUPON FOR A

FREE

COUPON ADVENT CALENDAR!

LIMIT ONE PER CUSTOMER*

PURE
CANNABIS OUTLET
25 DAYS OF DANK
UNLOCK A NEW DEAL EACH DAY!
OPEN A NEW FLAP EACH DAY UNTIL CHRISTMAS TO UNLOCK AN
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST ONLY
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24
25

www.SHOPPURE.com

$200+ SAVINGS INSIDE!

LIMITED TIME ONLY! WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana. For use by individuals 21 years of age or older or registered qualifying patients only. Keep out of reach of children. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

WARNING: USE BY PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, OR BY WOMEN PLANNING TO BECOME PREGNANT, MAY RESULT IN FETAL INJURY, PRETERM BIRTH, LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, OR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE CHILD.